

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 07569 091129Z

13

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

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P 090900Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO CINCPAC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 943

SECDEF

CSA WASHDC

CINCUSARPAC

CDRUSARJAPAN

CDR SAFASIA OKINAWA

AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 7569

FROM THE CHARGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, PK

SUBJ: PAKISTAN FLOOD RELIEF EFFORT

1. ON THE EVE OF THE DEPARTURE FROM PAKISTAN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY SPECIAL ACTION FORCES OD-19 AND 21 UNDER COMMAND OF LTC RICHARDS, I WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO COMMEND THEM ON THEIR SPLENDID PERFORMANCE WHILE CONDUCTING EMERGENCY FLOOD RELIEF MISSIONS DURING THESE PAST THREE WEEKS.

2. THEIR GREAT HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS HAVE BEEN UNIVERSALLY APPRECIATED IN PAKISTAN AND HAVE RECEIVED WIDESPREAD ACCLAIM IN PAKISTAN'S PRESS, RADIO AND TV. THEIR EFFORT WAS A DRAMATIC INDICATION OF AMERICAN CONCERN FOR THE VICTIMS OF THIS WORST PAKISTAN FLOOD TRAGEDY IN LIVING MEMORY.

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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 07569 091129Z

3. THESE OFFICERS AND MEN WERE HIGHLY TRAINED, WELL LED,

MOTIVATED AND PROPERLY EQUIPPED FOR THE JOB THEY WERE SENT HERE TO DO. THESE TEAMS, WHICH RESPONDED IMMEDIATELY, ARRIVED PROMPTLY AND WENT INTO ACTION ON THE MOMENT OF ARRIVAL, PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN PERSONNEL EVACUATION, IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM AND FOOD SUPPLY OPERATIONS. I PERSONALLY OBSERVED THEM OPERATING THEIR BOATS TO HELP PEOPLE IN THE FLOODED AREA AND I WAS PROUD OF THEM. PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO PERSONALLY THANKED ME FOR THESE MEN'S ASSISTANCE, AND OUR PROMPT RESPONSE TO PAKISTAN'S NEED AT THIS TIME OF CRISIS. THEIR FULL COOPERATION WITH THE PAKISTAN ARMY AND FLOOD OFFICIALS, WITH TOTAL DISREGARD OF THEIR NEED FOR PERSONAL COMFORTS, HAS BROUGHT HIGH REGARD AND RESPECT FROM ALL.

4. THE SUPERB UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE OF THESE MEN HAS BEEN IN ACCORD WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND IS WORTHY OF SPECIAL COMMENDATION. WELL DONE. SOBER

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